

Bat Week Resources

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If you create anything at your library for Bat Week that you want to share, please email it to Amelea Kim at akim@mt.gov, and it will be included in the toolkit!

What is Bat Week?

From website: “Bat Week is an annual celebration of the role of bats in nature. Bat Week is organized by a team of representatives from across the United States and Canada from conservation organizations and government departments.”

1. Bat Information Websites

Bat Week

Website URL: batweek.org

You can go on the website and find a variety of resources such as:

- 4 short videos about bats from the Bat Squad
- Fun facts and information about bats and why they are important
- Past Bat Week events and themes
- Suggestions for events and activities for this year’s Bat Week theme

Bat Conservation International

Website URL: <http://www.batcon.org/>

Available Resources:

- Many awesome bat facts under the “Why Bats?” section
- Current news and updates about bats in “Resources -> Media and Education -> Newsroom”
- Species Profile: Look up specific bats, see pictures, as well as where their approximate range is
- Coloring Pages: In the “Resources -> Kidz Cave” there are tons of craft ideas, coloring pages, and fun bat-themed activities to do!

Bat Conservation Trust

Website URL: <https://www.bats.org.uk/>

Available Resources:

- Lots of bat facts under “About Bats”
- Great information about working with bats, under the “Advice” section, such as how to help with an injured bat, how to happily coexist with bats, creating a garden to help support bats, etc
- News stories about bats available, from more serious topics to the lighthearted

Smithsonian Institute – Bat Facts

Website URL: <https://www.si.edu/spotlight/bats/batfacts>

Great summary about bats, with lots of cool facts and details about them.

2. Presentations from FWP Wildlife Biologists Across Montana and PowerPoint

If you are interested in having a qualified biologist come and talk about bats at your library, here is a list of people who might be available to give presentations. Due to COVID, it is recommended that you set-up virtual presentations, if presenters are still available

Additionally, all the names highlighted in yellow are Information and Education Specialists. You can contact them with general Fish, Wildlife, and Parks education/outreach related questions, or to see if there are other specialists in the region beyond this list who might be available for presentations.

Here is a copy of the powerpoint that Lauri Hanauska-Brown sent MSL – it’s likely that the presenters will be using this. You can also use this for your own purposes:

[Bat Week Kids PPT 2017](#)

[Bat Week Kids PPT 2018](#)

[Bat Week Adult PPT 2018](#)

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3. Bat-Related Book List

From ALA: <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/offices/resources/battyaboutbats>

From Smithsonian: https://www.si.edu/encyclopedia_si/nmnh/bats.htm

4. Bat Videos

Please remember to watch all videos ahead of time to make sure that they are best fit for your activity purposes!

Video About Bracken Cave (Largest Bat Colony in the World)

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4ehm4o_CYc

Bat Documentaries/Informational Videos

- Fun Facts about Bats (8 minutes): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3w9ZbRQlek>
- Bats (2010) documentary
- Rodrigo Medellin (Bat man of Mexico's) Youtube Channel (In Spanish):
<https://www.youtube.com/user/RMedellinbats/videos>
 - a. There are English subtitles, and he has features on various species of bats, where he talks about all their features
- Season of the Bat: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5nWxeuCMUO4>
- Secrets and Mysteries of Bats Documentary:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCbZHvsX1dk>
- Meet the World's Biggest Bat, National Geographic (3 minutes):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5FK9tWT5pA4>
- Bats hunting their prey, BBC (4 minutes):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p08Y0oRAX3g>
- Bat Sounds (2 minutes): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ppLsu5Z2Np0>
- Journeying With Bats Across Mexico (11 minutes):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87rxT9p2qs>

5. Bat Week Video Contest

From Fish, Wildlife, and Parks:

“We invite students in Montana from age 14-18 to create a video highlighting bats and their importance to Montana’s ecosystems and industries. Your video should include research that helps people understand “Why Bats Matter”. Get creative! You could format your video as a news report, a documentary, or simply give us the facts in a visually appealing way. The deadline for video submissions is Friday, October 16th at 5:00 P.M., right in time for national “Bat Week”! A panel of judges will select the top 3 videos based on quality and content. Those videos will then be featured on Montana Fish, Wildlife and Park’s (FWP) Facebook page. One winning video will receive a \$500 prize donated by Montana’s Outdoor Legacy Foundation!”

[Bat Week Video Contest Flyer](#)

[Rules and Guidelines](#)

[Photo Release Form](#)

6. Bat Printables

Coloring Pages

[Bat Week Coloring Page - Chocolate Wattled Bat JPEG](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Page - Flying Cartoon Bat JPEG](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Page - Fruit Bat JPEG](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Page - Happy Cartoon Bat JPEG](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Page - Southeastern Myotis Bat JPEG](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Pages - All Bats PDF](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Page 1 \(docx\)](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Page 2 \(docx\)](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Page 3 \(docx\)](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Page 4 \(docx\)](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Page 5 \(docx\)](#)

[Bat Week Coloring Page 6 \(docx\)](#)

[Save Lucy the Bat Coloring Book \(PDF\)](#)

Mazes

[Maze 1](#)

[Maze 2](#)

[Maze 3](#)

[Maze 4](#)

[Maze Answers](#)

Crossword/Wordsearch

[Crossword Activity](#)

[Crossword Answers](#)

[Wordsearch Activity](#)

Notes:

- Feel free to use/distribute/share these images however you see fit as they are in the public domain.
- Thank you to Victoria Troeger for drawing many of these bats to use as coloring pages!
- All the docx files are editable – you can make the images smaller, save the bat graphics to your computer to use for other purposes, or rearrange things on the page as you see fit.

7. Bat Week Marketing Materials

You can use the following PowerPoint file to create marketing materials to post on social media about Bat Week. The PowerPoint file has templates for Facebook posts and Instagram posts. The first few slides are examples, and then there are blank slides for you to fill in your created content. Directions on how to download the slides and convert the to JPG or PNG are included in each slide.

Editable Templates

[Facebook and Instagram Bat Posts](#)

Design Elements

[Bat Week Logo \(white background\)](#)

[Bat Week Logo \(transparent background\)](#)

[Bat Week Did you Know Image \(transparent background\)](#)

8. Bat Crafts

Here are a few bat-related crafts and activities:

- Easy Origami Bats:
 - a. <https://layers-of-learning.com/origami-bats/>

- b. <https://www.redtedart.com/easy-origami-bat/>
- Paper Bag Bat:
 - a. <http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mbagbat.htm>
- Egg Carton Bat Craft:
 - a. <https://www.dltk-holidays.com/halloween/meggcarton-bat.htm>
- Compilation of Bat Crafts:
 - a. https://www.dltk-holidays.com/halloween/bat_crafts.html
- Bat Puppets (more complicated)
 - a. <https://www.redtedart.com/bat-paper-puppet/>
- Bat Goodie Bags:
 - a. <https://www.redtedart.com/easy-halloween-craft-pinata-goodie-bag/>
- Bat Finger Painting/Handprint Painting:
 - a. <http://funhandprintartblog.com/2011/10/handprint-bat-flying-over-the-moon-a-handprint-painting-tip.html>
- Thumbprint Bats:
 - a. <https://www.craftymorning.com/fingerprint-bat-outline-craft-kids/>
- Pom Pom Bats:
 - a. <https://www.redtedart.com/bat-crafts-pom-pom-bats/>

9. Building a Bat House

Here are various websites with information on how to build a bat house for our bat friends! You will need some specialized equipment to build a bat house, so it might be good to enlist the help of a carpenter/wood-worker friend if you know of one in your community.

- <https://www.wvgoa.com/article/build-a-bat-house/>
- <http://www.batcon.org/resources/getting-involved/bat-houses/build>
- <https://www.nwf.org/garden-for-wildlife/cover/build-a-bat-house>

10. Montana Field Guides

The Montana Natural Heritage Program has field guides for animals, plants, and nature native to Montana. Here is the field guide PDF with all of the Montana bats included. You can pick and choose which ones to print, or you can browse online to see which bats are in your library's area.

<http://fieldguide.mt.gov/displaySpecies.aspx?family=Vespertilionidae>

The Field Guide is particularly great for pictures of each of the bat species, and specific maps for where each bat lives and travels. Here are specific links to each of the bats that live in Montana:

- [Big Brown Bat](#)
- [California Myotis](#)
- [Eastern Red Bat \(Species of Concern\)](#)
- [Fringed Myotis \(Species of Concern\)](#)
- [Hoary Bat \(Species of Concern\)](#)
- [Little Brown Myotis \(Species of Concern\)](#)
- [Long-eared Myotis](#)
- [Long-legged Myotis](#)
- [Northern Myotis \(Species of Concern\)](#)
- [Pallid Bat \(Species of Concern\)](#)
- [Silver-haired Bat \(Potential Species of Concern\)](#)
- [Spotted Bat \(Species of Concern\)](#)
- [Townsend's Big-eared Bat \(Species of Concern\)](#)
- [Western Small-footed Myotis](#)
- [Yuma Myotis \(Potential Species of Concern\)](#)

11. Bat Display

Here are some basic bat facts and graphics for you to make a bat bulletin board, or a bat display somewhere in your library.

2018 Bat Display Materials

[Bat Display – Bat Facts](#)

[Bat Display – Display Title](#)

2019 Bat Display Materials

[Bat Display Powerpoint](#) (this file has various page sizes for the display cards that you can easily customize with your own text)

12. Quick list of Bat Facts

Here is a list of quick bat facts, all in one place, taken from bats.org.uk, batcon.org, and batweek.org:

1. There are more than 1,300 species of bats in the world
2. A bat's wing structure is actually a modified hand, with the finger bones elongated to support the thin skin membrane that creates the wing.
3. Bats use echolocation to fly and locate prey
4. Bats are important for pest and insect control, and save farmers billions of dollars when it comes to reducing crop damage and pesticide use for their crops.
5. Not all bats eat insects - some bats are critical pollinators for a wide variety of plants! They help pollinate by drinking nectar, and transfer pollen between plants with their fur
6. Some flowers have evolved to produce a musty/rotten smell that attracts bats.
7. The agave plant relies completely on bats to pollinate its flowers and reproduce!
8. The anoura fistulata is a nectar-feeding bat from South America - and it has the longest tongue proportionally of all mammals! Its body is about the size of a mouse, but its tongue is about 3.5 inches (8.5 centimeters), making it about 150% of its body length.
9. In most bat species, the females only give birth to one pup per year.
10. Only three of the 1,300+ bat species feed on blood, and they all live in Latin America.
11. White-nose Syndrome is a bat disease caused by a fungus that attacks and kills hibernating bats. Bat biologists are trying to fight this disease all across the US and Canada.
12. Areas along the equator have the greatest bat diversity - Indonesia alone has at least 219 bat species!
13. Bats are mammals that belong to the order Chiroptera
14. Bats are the only mammals naturally capable of true and sustained flight
15. The word for bat in Spanish is "murcielago"
16. The largest bat colony roosts in Bracken Cave, Texas. Over 15 million Mexican free-tailed bats roost in that cave!
17. The place a bat lives is called a "roost". Different kinds of bats prefer different kinds of roosts!
18. The bumblebee bat is not only the smallest bat in the world, but also the smallest mammal in existence!
19. Some male bats sing similar to songbirds! They also sing for the same reasons - to defend territories and attract mates.

13. Bat Bingo Card Template

Using the bat facts from Resource #11, you can create a quick and easy Bat Bingo Game using this power point template! There is a 5 x 5 bingo card, and a 4 x 4 bingo card available to use.

[Bat Bingo Cards Template](#)